

Brett O'Neil
Office of the Commissioner of Securities and
Insurance, Montana State Auditor (CSI)
840 Helena Avenue
Helena, MT 59601
T: (406) 444-2040
F: (406) 444-3497

Attorney for the Office of the Commissioner of Securities and Insurance, Montana State Auditor

**BEFORE THE COMMISSIONER OF SECURITIES AND INSURANCE
MONTANA STATE AUDITOR**

)	
)	CASE NO. INS-2012-276
IN THE MATTER OF:)	
ARTISANS CONTRACTORS INSURANCE)	ORDER OF SUSPENSION
COMPANY RISK RETENTION GROUP, LLC,)	OF LICENSE
Montana certificate of authority # 5553.)	
)	
)	

Pursuant to Mont. Code Ann. § 33-28-109, the Office of the Commissioner of Securities and Insurance, Montana State Auditor (CSI), suspends the license of Artisans Contractors Insurance Company Risk Retention Group, LLC (Artisans), for the following reasons:

1. The State Auditor is the Commissioner of Securities and Insurance (Commissioner) pursuant to Mont. Code Ann. §§ 2-15-1901 and 2-15-1903.
2. The CSI is under the control and supervision of the Commissioner pursuant to Mont. Code Ann. §§ 2-15-1902 and 33-1-301.
3. The Commissioner shall administer the CSI to protect insurance consumers. Mont. Code Ann. § 33-1-311(3).

4. The Commissioner and the CSI have jurisdiction over this matter. Mont. Code Ann. § 33-1-311.

5. The Commissioner originally suspended Artisans' certificate of authority on March 9, 2012. That suspension was converted into an Order of Supervision on March 28, 2012, to allow Artisans the opportunity to continue business with oversight. That Order has been renewed ten times, most recently on December 9, 2013.

6. Artisans has not been able to organize its finances, its policies, or its reinsurance agreements to successfully re-enter the market.

7. Pursuant to Mont. Code Ann. § 33-28-109(1)(f), a captive insurance company doing insurance business in Montana must not use methods that, although not specifically prohibited by law, nevertheless render its operation detrimental or its condition unsound with respect to the public or its policyholders. A review of Artisans' current business model and funds indicates Artisans cannot successfully underwrite new business and offer viable shares to its shareholders.

8. Pursuant to Mont. Code Ann. § 33-28-109(2), the Commissioner may suspend a Montana certificate of authority if the CSI finds evidence that a company is not in compliance with Mont. Code Ann. § 33-28-109(1). Based on the foregoing, the Commissioner issues the following:

ORDER

Artisans' Montana license, certificate of authority # 5553, is **SUSPENDED**, effective immediately, and Artisans is prohibited from writing all new and renewal business, until such time as this Order is rescinded or amended.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that Artisans must submit to the CSI:

- a. a viable business plan; or
- b. an assumption agreement with a CSI approved carrier.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that this Order shall remain in effect until the CSI approves either the business plan or the assumption agreement.

DATED this 13th day of January, 2014.

MONICA J. LINDEEN
Commissioner of Securities and Insurance,
Montana State Auditor

By: _____


ADAM SCHAFER
Deputy State Auditor

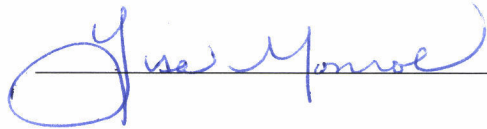
CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

The undersigned hereby certifies that on this 16th day of January, 2014, a true and correct copy of the foregoing was served upon the following by U.S. mail, certified, postage prepaid:

Dennis Neyland, Managing Director
Southeast Safety Association, Inc.
227 Erlanger Street
Slidell, LA 70458

Via Hand-delivery:

Brett O'Neil
Office of the CSI



A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Brett O'Neil", is written over a horizontal line.